

MILITIA.

Chap. 96. AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ORGANIZATION OF AN ARMED POLICE FORCE FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON.

Intendant may accept volunteers.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the intendant of police of the town of Washington be, and he is hereby empowered to accept the service of such of the residents of said town over the age of forty-five years, as will form themselves into a company, and engage to serve under his orders, or those of a majority of the acting commissioners of the said town, for the safety of the lives and the property of the inhabitants thereof.

Acceptance of members.

SEC. 2. That in order to the formation of the said company, an engagement in writing, made by such persons to serve as members of said company, and by them subscribed, and also the acceptance by the said intendant of all such as do subscribe the same, shall be sufficient to constitute such persons members of the said company, and shall bind each and every of them to serve therein for the term of five years next ensuing the date of such acceptance: *Provided*, such persons do continue to reside in said town.

Members to procure arms.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of each member of said company to procure the following arms at least, viz: one good and sufficient musket and bayonet and one pair of belt or horseman's pistols, or one double barrel shot gun, and one pair of said pistols; which said arms, together with twelve rounds of powder and buck-shot cartridges for each barrel of said arms, he shall at all times keep at his residence in good order, and prepared for immediate use upon any and every emergency that may require their use during the term of his service.

Arms to be inspected.

SEC. 4. That the power and authority of the said intendant of police, or of a majority of the acting commissions [commissioners] of said town, shall be and extend to the ordering such officers as shall be chosen by ballot by the members of said company to have a meeting of the members thereof once in every month for the inspection of the arms and cartridges